JOURNAL

of the

UNITED NATIONS

WEDNESDAY, 11 NOVEMBER 1998 No. 1998/217

PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS AND AGENDA

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

Wednesday, 11 November 1998

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fifty-third session

Committees

SPECIAL POLITICAL AND DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE (FOURTH COMMITTEE)

3 p.m.- 6 p.m.	18th meeting	Conference Room 2

United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East [83] (A/53/13, A/53/471, A/53/472, A/53/518 and Corr.1, A/53/551, A/53/569, A/53/644, A/C.4/53/L.9 and L.10)

General debate

SECOND COMMITTEE

10 a.m.- 1 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 6

Informal consultations, under the chairmanship of Mr. David Prendergast (Jamaica), Vice-Chairman of the Committee, on the following draft resolutions: A/C.2/53/L.25 (Commitments undertaken at UNCED and the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly (item 94 (a))); A/C.2/53/L.29 (Convention on Biological Diversity (item 94 (d))); and A/C.2/53/L.27 (United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (item 98))

11 a.m.- 1 p.m.		Economic and Social Council Chamber

Panel discussion

[H.E. Mr. Poul Nielson, Minister for Development Cooperation, Denmark; H.E. Ms. Vigdís Finnbogadóttir, former President of Iceland; Mr. Kwame Pianim, Economist (Ghana) and Professor Richard Falk, Princeton University (United States), will brief the Committee on "The Copenhagen Seminars for Social Progress: Denmark's contribution to the discussion on the follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development".]

3 p.m.- 6 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 6

Informal consultations, under the chairmanship of Mr. Burak Özügergin (Turkey), Vice-Chairman of the Committee, on the following draft resolutions A/C.2/53/L.23 (Least developed countries (item 93 (d))); and A/C.2/53/L.24 (United Nations University (item 96 (a)))

Informal consultations, under the chairmanship of Mr. Odyek Agona (Uganda), Vice-Chairman of the Committee, on the following draft resolutions A/C.2/53/L.26 (International trade and development (item 91 (a))); A/C.2/53/L.34 (Landlocked States (item 91 (a))); A/C.2/53/L.2 (External debt (item 91 (d)); and A/C.2/53/L.5 (Commodities (item 91 (c)))

THIRD COMMITTEE

11 a.m.- 1 p.m.	42nd meeting	Conference Room 1
3 p.m.- 6 p.m.	43rd meeting	Conference Room 1

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees: questions relating to refugees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions [105] (A/53/12, Suppl. No. 12, A/53/12/Add.1, A/53/486, A/53/328, A/53/413 and A/53/325)

Introductory statement by the High Commissioner for Refugees

Dialogue with the High Commissioner for Refugees

General discussion

FIFTH COMMITTEE

10 a.m.	24th meeting	Conference Room 3

Human resources management [120] (A/53/501, A/C.5/52/2, A/52/814, A/53/266, A/53/327, A/53/342, A/53/375 and Corr.1 and Corr.2 (French only), A/53/385, A/53/414, A/53/502, A/53/526, A/53/548 and A/C.5/53/L.3)

Introduction and continuation of general discussion

Morning*- 1 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5

Informal consultations on agenda item 165 (Joint Inspection Unit (A/51/34, A/51/559 and Corr.1, A/52/34, A/52/206, A/52/267 and A/53/180))

3 p.m.- 6 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5

Informal consultations on agenda item 117 (Pattern of conferences (A/51/946, A/52/7 (paras. 113 and 114), A/52/685, A/52/803, A/52/1000, A/53/16 (paras. 334-352), A/53/21, A/53/32 and Corr.1, A/53/221, A/53/257 and A/53/507))

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* Following the adjournment of the 24th meeting of the Fifth Committee.

SIXTH COMMITTEE

10 a.m.- 1 p.m.	25th meeting	Conference Room 4
3 p.m.	26th meeting	Conference Room 4

Measures to eliminate international terrorism [155] (A/53/37, A/53/314 and Corr.1, Corr. 2 and Add.1, A/53/66-S/1998/115, A/53/71, A/53/72-S/1998/156, A/53/95-S/1998/311 A/53/117-S/1998/371, A/53/131-S/1998/435, A/53/285, A/53/300, A/53/341, A/53/371-S/1998/848, A/C.6/53/2, A/C.6/53/3, A/C.6/53/4, A/C.6/53/5, A/C.6/53/6, A/C.6/53/7, A/C.6/53/9, A/53/489, A/53/532-S/1998/984, A/C.6/53/L.4, A/53/552-S/1998/1010, A/53/560-S/1998/1019 and A/53/646)

Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its thirty-first session [151]

Action on draft resolution A/C.6/53/L.7

Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization [154]

Action on draft resolution A/C.6/53/L.6/Rev.1

Afternoon*- 6 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 4

Informal consultations on agenda item 155 (Measures to eliminate international terrorism)

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* Following the adjournment of the 26th meeting of the Sixth Committee.

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

10.30 a.m.- 1 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 10
3 p.m.- 6 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 10

Subjects

1. Employment of retirees
2. Internal vacancies in the Secretariat

3. Consultants and individual contractors

4. Comprehensive guidelines for the use of consultants in the Secretariat

UNITED NATIONS ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL

10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.	closed meeting	Room DC2-469
2.30 p.m.-6 p.m.	closed meeting	Room DC2-469

Committees

THIRD COMMITTEE

Informal consultations

The coordinator of the draft resolution on the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, Mr. Busacca (Italy), will hold informal consultations *today*, 11 November 1998, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Conference Room D. Copies of the revised text of the draft can be obtained in room S-2950.

MEETINGS OTHER THAN MEETINGS OF UNITED NATIONS BODIES

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Wednesday, 11 November 1998

GROUP OF 77 OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE
(item 95: Triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations)

10 a.m.- 1 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 9

GROUP OF 77 OF THE FOURTH COMMITTEE
(on information)

11 a.m.- 1 p.m.	closed meeting	Trusteeship Council Chamber

AFRICAN GROUP OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

1.15 p.m.- 2.45 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 9

AFRICAN GROUP OF THE WHOLE

3 p.m.- 6 p.m.	closed meeting	Trusteeship Council Chamber

GROUP OF 77 OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE
(on the United Nations Task Force on Environment and Human Settlements)

3 p.m.- 6 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 8

MOVEMENT OF NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES:

WORKING GROUP ON THE RESTRUCTURING OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

3.30 p.m.- 6 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 9

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Informal meeting

The Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations will hold an informal meeting on the theme "Increasing Access to the General Assembly and to All Areas of the Work of the United Nations: An Open Consultation" *today*, 11 November 1998, from 1.15 p.m. to 2.45 p.m. in Conference Room 6. Members of permanent missions, Secretariat staff and representatives of non-governmental organizations are invited to attend.

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Announcement

As from Wednesday, 4 November 1998, and for the rest of the month, the Presidency of the Security Council will conduct informal briefings on the current work of the Council for Member States of the United Nations which are non-members of the Council daily, except on days on which no informal consultations are scheduled. The briefings will take place at 1.15 p.m., or shortly after the adjournment of the informal consultations, in the Press Briefing Room (S-226).

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Thursday, 12 November 1998

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fifty-third session

10 a.m.	56th PLENARY MEETING	General Assembly Hall

Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs: election of eighteen members of the Economic and Social Council [15 (b)].

Committees

FIRST COMMITTEE

10 a.m.	28th meeting	Conference Room 2

SPECIAL POLITICAL AND DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE (FOURTH COMMITTEE)

3 p.m.	19th meeting	Conference Room 2

SECOND COMMITTEE

10 a.m.	38th meeting	Trusteeship Council Chamber
Morning*	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 6
3 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 6

* Following the adjournment of the 38th meeting of the Second Committee.

THIRD COMMITTEE

10 a.m.	44th meeting	Conference Room 1
3 p.m.	45th meeting	Conference Room 1

FIFTH COMMITTEE

10 a.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5
3 p.m.	25th meeting	Conference Room 3
Afternoon*	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5

* Following the adjournment of the 25th meeting of the Fifth Committee.

SIXTH COMMITTEE

10 a.m.	27th meeting	Conference Room 4

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

10.30 a.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 10
3 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 10

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The 241st meeting of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People will be held on Thursday, 12 November 1998, at 10.30 a.m. in the Economic and Social Council Chamber.

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The Ad Hoc Committee of the General Assembly for the Announcement of Voluntary Contributions to the 1999 Programmes of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees will meet on Friday, 13 November 1998, at 10 a.m. in Conference Room 4.

* * *

The 195th meeting of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country will be convened on Monday, 16 November 1998, at 10.30 a.m. in Conference Room 8. The provisional agenda for the meeting will include the following items: (a) Security of missions and the safety of their personnel; (b) Other matters. The meeting will be open to observers. Delegations are reminded that while any matter pertinent to the work of the Committee could be raised from the floor, they are encouraged, in accordance with the decision of the Committee adopted at its 164th meeting in March 1994, to request the formal inscription, at least 48 hours prior to the meeting, of other special items they would like to raise, keeping in mind the detailed list of topics adopted by the Committee in 1982 (see document A/50/46, paragraph 5). Delegations are further encouraged to submit to the Chairman of the Committee or to its Secretary (room S-3420D; fax: 963-6430) any relevant documentation or written statements in advance of the meeting.

* * *

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

The Bureau of the Commission on the Status of Women invites delegations to propose names for panellists to participate in the session of the Commission acting as preparatory body for the high-level plenary review in the year 2000 (March 1999). Delegations are kindly requested to submit names and curricula vitae to the Division for the Advancement of Women (room DC2-1216), *no later than* Monday, 16 November 1998.

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United Nations Development Programme

The United Nations Development Programme will hold informal consultations on the *Human Development Report 1999* on Thursday, 12 November 1998, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. in Conference Room 8. Interested delegations are invited to attend.

MEETINGS OTHER THAN MEETINGS OF UNITED NATIONS BODIES

The announcements in this section are reproduced as received. The designations employed do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations.

There will be a meeting of the Group of 77 *(on Fifth Committee matters)* on Thursday, 12 November 1998, at 1.45 p.m. in Conference Room 5.

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There will be a meeting of the Arab Group of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) on Thursday, 12 November 1998, following the adjournment of the 19th meeting of the Committee, in Conference Room 2.

* * *

There will be a meeting of the Arab Group *(at the ambassadorial level)* on Tuesday, 17 November 1998, at 11 a.m. in Conference Room 8.

* * *

There will be meetings of the Group of 77 *(on a brainstorming session on desertification)* on Thursday, 19 November 1998, at 10 a.m. in Conference Room 8, and at 3 p.m. in Conference Room 7.

* * *

There will be a meeting of the Group of 77 *(on the forty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women (organization of work))* on Monday, 23 November 1998, at 10 a.m. in Conference Room 7

* * *

Informal meeting

There will be an informal meeting on the World Conference on Racism, organized by the International NGO Committee on Human Rights, on Wednesday, 18 November 1998, from 1.15 p.m. to 2.45 p.m. in Conference Room A. The panellists include Mrs. Elsa Stamatopoulou, Deputy Director, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, New York, and Mrs. Mwila Grace Banda Chigaga, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Zambia to the United Nations. Members of permanent missions, Secretariat staff and representatives of non-governmental organizations are invited to attend.

* * *

Informal consultations

There will be informal consultations on the draft resolution on safety and security of United Nations personnel and other humanitarian personnel, organized by the delegation of Austria, on Thursday, 12 November 1998, at 10 a.m. in Conference Room C. All interested delegations are invited to attend.

* * *

There will be informal consultations on the draft resolution under agenda item 38 (b) (Large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing, unauthorized fishing in zones of national jurisdiction and on the high seas, fisheries by-catch and discards, and other developments) on Friday, 13 November 1998, from 1.15 p.m. to 2.45 p.m. in Conference Room A.

* * *

Seminar

A seminar on Japan's financial crisis and the collapse of the main bank myth, organized by the Development Policy Analysis Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, will take place on Monday, 16 November 1998, at 11 a.m. in Room DC2-2127. The seminar will be conducted by Dr. Mark Scher, DESA. All interested members of delegations and Secretariat staff are invited to attend. Queries: Mr. Henk-Jan Brinkman (tel.: 963-4742).

* * *

Informal presentations

There will be an informal presentation on the theme "Development and Human Rights: A View from the World Bank", in response to the Third Committee's debate on agenda item 110 (Human rights questions), with particular focus on the right to development, by Mr. Louis Forget, Legal Adviser on Institutional Affairs (World Bank). The presentation, organized by the World Bank, will be held on Monday, 16 November 1998, from 1.30 p.m. to 2.45 p.m. in Conference Room 7.

* * *

There will be an informal presentation on international cooperation and coordination for the human and ecological rehabilitation and economic development of the Semipalatinsk region of Kazakhstan. The presentation, organized by the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Women's Environment and Development Organization, will be held on Monday, 16 November 1998, from 6.30 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Dag Hammarskjöld Library Auditorium. All interested members of delegations and Secretariat staff are invited to attend.

* * *

There will be an informal presentation on the theme "Governance, Public Management and Regime of Law in Developing and Transitional Countries" by Prof. Klaus König, German University for Administrative Sciences. The presentation, organized by the Division of Public Economics and Public Administration of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, will be held on Tuesday, 17 November 1998, at 10.30 a.m. in Conference Room A. All interested delegations and Secretariat staff are invited to attend.

* * *

Panel discussion

In conjunction with agenda item 20 (Strengthening of the cooperation of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance), there will be a panel discussion on the human, ecological and economic problems and needs of the Semipalatinsk region of Kazakhstan, sponsored by the Permanent Mission of Kazakhstan and UNDP Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States, on Monday, 16 November 1998, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. in Conference Room 8. The main speaker will be H.E. Mr. Serikbek Daukeev, Minister of Ecology of Kazakhstan. All interested members of delegations and Secretariat staff are invited to attend.

SUMMARY OF MEETINGS

Tuesday, 10 November 1998

SECURITY COUNCIL

3942nd meeting

Protection for humanitarian assistance to refugees and others in conflict situations

The agenda was adopted without objection.

In accordance with the understanding reached in the Council's prior consultations, the President, with the consent of the Council, extended an invitation under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure to Mrs. Sadako Ogata, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

The Council began its consideration of the item.

The President made a statement on the procedure to be followed at the meeting.

The Council then heard a briefing under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

The President made a further statement on procedure.

Statements were made by the representatives of the Russian Federation, Brazil, China, Sweden, Japan, Portugal, Bahrain, Costa Rica, the Gambia, the United Kingdom, Slovenia, Kenya, France and Gabon.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees provided clarifications in response to the comments and questions by members of the Council.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fifty-third session

54th plenary meeting

Tribute to the memory of His Excellency Mr. Mohamed Taki Abdoulkarim, Head of State of the Comoros

The Acting President made a statement.

The General Assembly observed one minute of silence in tribute to the memory of His Excellency Mr. Mohamed Taki Abdoulkarim, Head of State of the Comoros.

The Assembly heard statements by the representatives of the Sudan (on behalf of the African States), Oman (on behalf of the Asian States), Romania (on behalf of the Eastern European States), Ecuador (on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean States), Australia (on behalf of the Western European and Other States), Yemen (on behalf of the Arab States) and the United States (as host country).

The representative of the Comoros made a statement.

Credentials of the representatives to the fifty-third session of the General Assembly: first report of the Credentials Committee (A/53/556) [3 (b)]

The observer for Palestine made a statement.

Statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of Egypt and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The General Assembly adopted the draft resolution recommended by the Credentials Committee in paragraph 11 of its report (A/53/556) (resolution 53/23).

The Assembly thus concluded this stage of its consideration of sub-item (b) of agenda item 3.

Report of the Economic and Social Council: draft resolution (A/53/L.24) [12]

The representative of Kyrgyzstan made a statement in the course of which she introduced draft resolution A/53/L.24.

Statements were made by the representatives of Nepal and France.

The General Assembly adopted draft resolution A/53/L.24 (resolution 53/24).

The Assembly thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 12.

Culture of peace [31]

(a) Note by the Secretary-General, transmitting the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (A/53/370 and Add.1 and 2)

(b) Draft resolution (A/53/L.25)

The General Assembly decided to hear the observer of the Holy See in the debate on agenda item 31.

Statements were made by the representatives of Bangladesh, Turkmenistan, Ecuador, China, Myanmar, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Lebanon, Benin, Senegal, Uruguay, the Russian Federation and Togo.

55th plenary meeting

Culture of peace [31]

(a) Note by the Secretary-General, transmitting the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (A/53/370 and Add.1 and 2)

(b) Draft resolution (A/53/L.25)

The General Assembly resumed consideration of the item.

Statements were made by the representatives of the Philippines, Mozambique, the Syrian Arab Republic, Uzbekistan, Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria, India, the Sudan, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Peru.

In accordance with the decision taken at the 54th plenary meeting, the observer of the Holy See made a statement.

The Assembly adopted draft resolution A/53/L.25 (resolution 53/25).

Statements in the exercise of the right of reply were made by the representatives of Israel, Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic.

The Assembly thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 31.

Programme of work

The General Assembly was informed that agenda item 48 (Report of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991), originally scheduled for Friday, 20 November 1998, in the morning, would be considered on Thursday, 19 November 1998, in the morning.

Committees

FIRST COMMITTEE 27th meeting

Note: The summary of the 27th meeting of the First Committee will appear in the next issue of the *Journal* (No. 1998/218).

SECOND COMMITTEE 36th meeting

Organizational matters

The representative of the United States made a statement. Subsequently, the representative of Indonesia made a statement, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Macroeconomic policy questions [91]

(a) Trade and development

Introduction of draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.34

The Committee resumed consideration of the item.

The representative of Kazakhstan introduced the draft resolution, on behalf of the sponsors listed.

Sustainable development and international economic cooperation [93]

(c) Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

Introduction of draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.31

The Committee resumed consideration of the item.

The representatives of Indonesia and Kenya introduced the draft resolution on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

(f) Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

Introduction of draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.33

The Committee resumed consideration of the item.

The representatives of Indonesia and Egypt introduced the draft resolution, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China and also on behalf of the European Union.

Environment and sustainable development [94]

Introduction of draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.29

The Committee resumed consideration of the item.

The representatives of Indonesia and Ethiopia introduced the draft resolution, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Training and research [96]

(b) United Nations Institute for Training and Research

Introduction of draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.32

The Committee resumed consideration of the item.

The representative on Indonesia introduced the draft resolution, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Implementation of the First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006) [98]

Introduction of draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.27

The Committee resumed consideration of the item.

The representative of Indonesia introduced the draft resolution, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Macroeconomic policy questions [91]

(b) Financing of development, including net transfer of resources between developing and developed countries

Action on draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.28

The Committee resumed consideration of the item.

The Secretary of the Committee made an oral statement regarding the conference servicing implications of the draft resolution.

The Committee then adopted the draft resolution.

Environment and sustainable development [94]

Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/53/L.11 and Corr.1 and A/C.2/53/L.30

The Committee resumed consideration of the item.

The Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. David Prendergast (Jamaica), introduced draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.30.

The representatives of Portugal, Spain and Ireland informed the Committee that their delegations would have wished to co-sponsor the draft resolution, prior to its becoming a Vice-Chairman's text.

The Committee then adopted the draft resolution.

Draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.11 and Corr.1 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

Operational activities for development [95]

Action on draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.9

The Committee resumed consideration of the item.

The Vice-President of the Committee, Mr. David Prendergast (Jamaica), informed the Committee of the informal consultations held on the draft resolution.

The Committee then adopted the draft resolution.

Implementation of the First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006) [98]

Action on draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.18

The Committee resumed consideration of the item.

The Secretary of the Committee made a statement.

The Committee then adopted the draft resolution.

Programme planning [114]

The Committee began a discussion on the item and had before it document A/C.2/53/5.

Statements were made by the representatives of Austria (on behalf of the European Union) and the United States. At the request of the representatives of Indonesia (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Egypt and Cuba, the Chairman informed the Committee that a further discussion on the item would be held on Monday, 16 November.

Organization of work

The Chairman informed the Committee that at its meeting on Monday, 16 November, action would be taken on draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.22. The representative of Morocco informed the Committee that his delegation would wish to co-sponsor draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.22. The Committee would also resume its general discussion on agenda item 93, as requested in document A/C.2/53/6, as well as its discussion on agenda item 114 (document A/C.2/53/5).

The Committee agreed to extend the deadline for submission of draft proposals under agenda items 93 (d) and (g) to 5.59 p.m. the same day.

Report of the Economic and Social Council [12]

The Committee began consideration of the item and heard introductory statements by the Chief of External Relations and Liaison Branch of UNFPA and the Director of the Division for Public Economics and Public Administration of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA).

37th meeting

Report of the Economic and Social Council [12]

The Committee continued consideration of the item.

Statements were made by the representatives of Pakistan, the Russian Federation, China, Ukraine, the Czech Republic, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Belarus, Romania, Viet Nam, Vanuatu and Croatia.

The Committee thus concluded its general discussion on agenda item 12.

The representative of DESA made some concluding remarks.

Organization of work

The Chairman informed the Committee that its 38th meeting would be held on Thursday, 12 November, at 10 a.m. in the Trusteeship Council Chamber, for the purpose of introducing draft proposals.

It was announced that the deadline for submission of draft proposals under agenda item 12 would be on Wednesday, 11 November, at 6 p.m.

THIRD COMMITTEE 41st meeting

Note: The summary of the 41st meeting of the Third Committee will appear in the next issue of the *Journal* (No. 1998/218).

FIFTH COMMITTEE 23rd meeting

United Nations common system [120]

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item.

The representative of Egypt made a statement.

The Chairman of the International Civil Service Commission made a concluding statement and responded to questions posed.

The Committee thus concluded its general discussion on this agenda item.

The Chairman informed the Committee that informal consultations on this agenda item would begin the same day, following the adjournment of the formal meeting under the chairmanship of Mr. Manlan Ahounou (Côte d'Ivoire), Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

United Nations pension system [121]

The Chairman informed the Committee that it had concluded its general discussion on this agenda item and that informal consultations on this item would be held under the chairmanship of Mr. Manlan Ahounou (Côte d' Ivoire), Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services [144]

The Committee began its consideration of this agenda item.

The Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services introduced the annual report of that office (A/53/428).

Statements were made by the representatives of Austria (on behalf of the European Union and also on behalf of Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Cyprus, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway), Pakistan and Algeria.

The Chairman informed the Committee that the list of speakers for the general discussion on this agenda item would be closed the same day at 6 p.m.

SIXTH COMMITTEE 24th meeting

Review of the Statute of the Administrative Tribunal of the United Nations [156]

Statements were made by the representatives of France and the United Kingdom.

The Committee thus concluded its debate on this item.

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Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

COMMITTEE AGAINST TORTURE
Twenty-first session
United Nations Office at Geneva

TUESDAY, 10 NOVEMBER 1998

346th and 347th (closed) meetings

Information received under article 20 of the Convention [5]

Organizational matters related to individual communications received under article 22 [6]

The Committee considered these items in closed session.

SIGNATURES, RATIFICATIONS, ETC.

[MULTILATERAL TREATIES DEPOSITED WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL]

International Cocoa Agreement, 1993. Geneva, 16 July 1993

Ratification: United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (6 November 1998)*

Amendments to the Convention on the International Maritime Organization. London, 4 November 1993

Acceptance: Libyan Arab Jamahiriya (6 November 1998)*

Amendments to articles 3 (5) and 9 (8) of the Constitution of the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity. Colombo, 29 November 1991

Acceptance: Singapore (6 November 1998)*

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* Date of receipt of the relevant documents.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE EDITOR

Material for insertion in the *Journal* should be addressed to room S-2940
(extensions 33888, 36771 and 36776) (fax number: 963-4790)
(e.mail address: JOURNAL@UN.ORG)
Office opens at 4.30 p.m.

Published at Headquarters, New York,
by the Department of General Assembly Affairs
and Conference Services

98-31191